

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 25, line 11, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The expression of approximately 10 000 genes was analysed and compared between the GP and PP patients. For this, 10 μ g of fragmented cRNAs derived from each sample were added to a hybridization buffer (Affymetrix) and 200 μ l of this solution were brought into contact for 16 h at 45°C on an expression chip (Human Genome U95Av2 GeneChip® (Affymetrix)), which comprises 12 625 groups of probes representing approximately 10 000 genes, according to the Affymetrix protocol as described on the Affymetrix internet site (~~see, in particular, at the following address:~~
http://www.affymetrix.com/support/downloads/manuals/expression_s2_manual.pdf).